

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04022 311215Z

53

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 L-03 OMB-01 TAR-02

AGR-20 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00

OIC-04 RSC-01 SIL-01 STR-08 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 CEA-02

OPIC-12 XMB-07 AF-10 EA-11 NEA-10 RSR-01 /197 W

----- 098502

R 310930Z JUL 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 870

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICOCITY

USUN NEWYORK 9395

USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 4022

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UNCTAD

SUBJ: UNCTAD: WORKING GROUP ON CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND
DUTIES OF STATES

REF: STATE A-5604, GENEVA 3877 AND PREVIOUS

BEGIN SUMMARY: WORKING GROUP (WG) ON CHARTER OF ECONOMIC
RIGHTS AND DUTIES ENDED ON TIME AFTER HECTIC AND AT TIMES
CHAOTIC FINAL SESSIONS. MEXICAN CHAIRMAN CREATED HOTHOUSE
ATMOSPHERE IN EFFORT FORCE NARROWING OF ALTERNATIVES IN
TEXT OF DRAFT CHARTER TO ANNOYANCE ALL DELS PRESENT. MEXICAN
TACTIC NOT COMPLETELY SUCCESSFUL AS MANY DELS REINTRODUCED
THEIR ORIGINAL PROPOSALS AND TENDED RESULT
IN MOVEMENT AWAY FROM CONSENSUS AND TOWARD POLARIZATION OF
VIEWS. USDEL MAINTAINED INTEGRITY OF ITS PROPOSALS AND
WAS ABLE REMAIN ON CORDIAL TERMS WITH MEXICANS. SESSION
ENDED BY TAKING NOTE OF REPORTS OF TWO SUB-GROUPS WITHOUT
COMMITMENT BY GOVERNMENTS. WG RECOMMENDED UNCTAD BOARD
REQUEST EXTENSION OF MANDATE FROM UNGA. END SUMMARY
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 04022 311215Z

1. WORKING GROUP MET IN VARIOUS SUB-BODIES MOST OF LAST WEEK OF SESSION IN EFFORT TO CONSOLIDATE MYRIAD OF TEXTS PROPOSED AND IF POSSIBLE AGREE ON COMMON PROPOSALS. WORKING PARTY I (WP I) ON PREAMBLE AND FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES WAS ABLE REACH A MEASURE OF AGREEMENT IN A DRAFTING GROUP WITH MOST PARAS CONTAINING SOME BRACKETED LANGUAGE. WORKING PARTY II (WP II) ON BODY OF CHARTER WAS ABLE TO DO LITTLE IN ITS DRAFTING GROUP TO REDUCE NUMBER OF ALTERNATIVE TEXTS FOR EACH OF 20- ODD PARAGRAPHS SINCE MANY DELS INCLUDING US LARGELY HELD TO OWN LANGUAGE.

2. PREAMBLE CONSIDERABLY ALTERED IN DRAFTING GROUP FROM TEXT TRANSMITTED GENEVA 3877. NUMEROUS OTHER PROPOSALS TO CHANGE PREAMBLE INTRODUCED DURING PLENARY CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF WP I.

3. CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF WP II IN PLENARY WAS CHAOTIC BECAUSE OF CHAIRMAN'S (CASTANEDA-MEXICO) UNORTHODOX DECISION TO WORK FROM HIS PERSONAL RSTATEMENT OF PROPOSALS RATHER THAN FROM OFFICIAL TEXT OF SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS OF WP. CHAIR SAID HIS UNOFFICIAL PROPOSAL WAS NECESSARY IN ORDER GIVE GA AS CLEAN A DRAFT CHARTER AS POSSIBLE AND TOOK ACTION WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION OR AGREEMENT. THIS, IN VIEW SEVERAL DELS, SERIOUSLY COMPROMISED ACCEPTED TRADITION OF IMPARTIAL CHAIRMAN. GROUP B (DEVELOPED) COUNTRIES HELD HURRIED CAUCUS AND DECIDED NOT BECOME EMBROILED IN PROCEDURAL DEBATE, BUT TO INSIST ON MAINTAINING INTEGRITY OF THEIR SUBMISSIONS. SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AND MANY LDCS WERE EQUALLY UNHAPPY WITH WHAT THEY TERMED HIGHHANDED ACTION OF CHAIR BUT DID NOT RAISE OBJECTIONS. (USSR IN FINAL STATEMENT REFERRED TO EXCESSIVE HASTE WHICH DID NOT HELP IN SPEEDING UP WORK.) SITUATION WAS EXACERBATED WHEN CHAIR PUBLICLY PRESSED EACH DEL WHICH MADE A PRPOSAL TO COMPROMISE ITS LANGUAGE INTO ONE OF SEVERAL PARAS WHICH HE (CHAIR) HAD PREPARED. THIS PROCEDURE RESULTED IN LENGTHY REDOING OF MUCH OF WORK OF WP WITH ONLY SOME NARROWING OF ALTERNATIVES ORIGINALLY SUBMITTED BY LDCS. USDEL MAINTAINED USG PROPOSALS.

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 04022 311215Z

4. AT ONE POINT PROCEEDINGS WERE DISRUPTED FOR NEARLY AN HOUR WHEN CHILE ATTEMPTED TO FORCE US LANGUAGE SUBMITTED ON PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY (PARA 2) INTO ANNEX WITH QTE NEW PROPOSALS UNQTE. US FIRMLY REFUSED AND CHAIR, RATHER THAN ATTEMPT AMICABLE SETTLEMENT, ATTEMPTED FORCE VOTE ON ISSUE. PHILIPPINES (BRILLANTES) CALLED FOR SUSPENSION OF MEETING AND CHILEANS WERE ALLOWED TO SAVE FACE BY INSERTING SEPARATE PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE

AFTER US PARAS IN MAIN BODY OF TEXT. DESPITE VIRTUAL REFUSAL OF CHAIR TO ACCEPT FROM NUMEROUS DELS NEW PROPOSALS IN HIS TEXT, MEXICAN DEL (SUPPORTED BY OTHER LATINS) LATER INSISTED ON INSERTING NEW PROPOSAL ON QTE IDEOLOGICAL PLURALISM UNQTE INTO TEXT OF PREAMBLE. DEL CONCEDED AFTER LENGTHY DEBATE ONLY AFTER PHILIPPINES AND INDIA OBJECTED THAT OTHER TEXTS HAD NOT RECEIVED SUCH SPECIAL TREATMENT.

5. MEXICAN DEL AND PARTICULARLY CHAIRMAN DID NOT SEEK TO WIDEN AREAS OF AGREEMENT OR CONSENSUS. THEIR ACTIONS, ON CONTRARY, TENDED UNFORTUNATELY TOWARD POLARIZATION OF VIEWS. NEVERTHELESS USDEL HAS MAINTAINED CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH MEXICAN DEL.

6. IN GENERAL, USDEL PLEASED WITH OUTCOME OF SESSION. DRAFT DOCUMENT HAS EMERGED WHICH FULLY INCORPORATES US PROPOSALS AMONG OTHERS BUT TO WHICH USG AND ALL GOVERNMENTS NOT AT ALL COMMITTED. THIS POINT UNDERSCORED BY USSR INTERVENTION AND CHAIR'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT AT CLOSE OF SESSION. COMPLETION OF DRAFT CHARTER CLEARLY IS WAY DOWN PIKE. MEXICAN DEL EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OF ACTIVE ROLE OF USDEL.

7. WG RECOMMENDED THAT UNCTAD THIRTEENTH TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD REQUEST UNGA TO EXTEND MANDATE OF WG WHICH DID NOT HAVE TIME TO COMPLETE WORK ENVISAGED IN RES 45(III). PHILIPPINE PROPOSAL TO HAVE TWO SESSIONS (THREE WEEKS EACH) IN 1974 NOT ACTED UPON BECAUSE OF LACK OF TIME.

8. REPORT OF WG WILL BE AIRPOUCHED AS SOON AS CLEAN TEXT RECEIVED.BASSIN

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